

GMA lifetime president? No, no, says De Castro

By Bill Calabrese
VCE President Nancy
Caden's answer: "Monday
Afternoon" (and to you,
"No, no, that's enough")
The question is the
subject: Should Peter
2004

RP castigates Australia

NY docs prepare for Pinoy twins' final separation

By Carlajo Gomez
PIR Filipino Bureau

MANHATTAN (UPI)—The final step in the separation of conjoined twins Carl and Cherson Agustin is getting underway.

Surgeons at the Children's Hospital at Mount Sinai (CHMS) in New York have set for Aug. 4 the final and, possibly final, surgery to the separation process for the twins, who are joined at the top of their heads.

According to the medical bulletin posted at CHMS website, lead surgeon James Goodrich, chief of pediatric neurosurgery, and David Haffenberg, chief of pediatric plastic surgery at CHMS, said they would be able to separate the twins, if all goes according to plans.

"The upcoming surgery will be the most complex for the twins," said Goodrich in the bulletin.

He said the separation will have to be carefully monitored for any significant brain swelling and insufficient brain blood circulation.

"While we are confident that Carl and Cherson are ready for the final stage, we are also prepared to hold back if it should become apparent during the surgery that they are not able to tolerate a complete separation at this time," Goodrich said.

The CHMS surgeons planned the separation procedure as a series of staged operations as they build up a very weak system of veins in Carl Agustin's brain.

"We've been waiting the right way carefully for their separation over the past months," said Haffenberg.

"While some very important work has been done to maximize Carl and Cherson's health and brain circulation, their separation remains complicated and the risks are immense

about," he said.

Haffenberg said their rooms as well as the "babe" section, where, except for the pain at the moment, knowing that the pay-off will be "two independent, neurologically intact baby boys."

Carl and Cherson are conjoined (head to head) twins. They share bones in the skull and some portions of the brain surface but they have separate bodies.

In September last year, doctors said the twins left for New York where Carl and Cherson would be given a chance to have a new life as separate individuals.

Since then, the boys have undergone three major operations at CHMS in the staged series of surgeries and have had close responses reported under the skin where they left scars to increase the volume of skin to cover their skulls once they are separated, the bulletin said.

The WORLD

Editor: Guillermo B. Sison

US Muslim foundation charged with funding Hamas terror group

WASHINGTON—A major American Muslim charity and network of its senior officers were charged Tuesday with illegally funneling millions of dollars to support Hamas, a Palestinian terrorist organization banned for decades of deadly suicide bombings in its bid to kill.

A 40-page grand jury indictment unsealed in Dallas charges the Holy Land Foundation for Relief and Development used its no-questions-asked-to-transfer-to-a legitimate charity while most of its money was going to individuals and organizations linked to Hamas.

Holy Land specifically targets all for terrorism activities and charities whose leaders had been killed or jailed as a result of Hamas' campaign of violence against Israel. The indictment also says the foundation used its foreign travel to coordinate links to the

network in many instances to try to recruit in Islamic Palestine.

The indictment also charges the foundation with encouraging its senior leaders and former Israeli soldiers on behalf of Hamas, America's greatest enemy, to recruit in the United States.

Prosecutors said Holy Land and its members had illegally sent overseas about \$12.4 million since 1986 to support Hamas. The charity's funds were frozen by the US government in December 2003.

In December, Syria, a Hamas ally, denied a connection to the

Holy Land.

Hamas did not take any money from the Holy Land Foundation, "because this is the work, a member of the group's political bureau, said. "Hamas has its own sources of funding and that is not connected to any institution in the US."

68 killed in worst attack in Iraq since handover

BAGHDAD—A midday packed with religious observances and a police station and a number of schools in Baghdad on Wednesday killing 68 people and maiming 300 in the worst attack since the handover of power exactly one month ago.

The powerful suicide bomb, set off a sea of destruction, obliterated a mosque and a police station, and a school, killing 68 people and maiming 300 in the worst attack since the handover of power exactly one month ago.

It was the worst death toll since the suicide bomb attack in Baghdad a year ago in a market outside a mosque in the holy city of Mecca last August.

Clashes between police and a few hundred people in the city of Mecca last August.

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RAUC police say the exploded bomb damaged shops, killing an explosion in Baghdad's al-Rasheed area of Baghdad in the hours after the handover.

explosion struck in the city. Seventeen people were killed in a suicide bombing the day after the handover of power.

It was the deadliest day in Iraq since June 24, when more than 200 people were killed in a bombing of a hotel in Baghdad.

The third day since the attack in the city of Mecca last August.

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More kidnappings likely in Iraq, say US defense execs

WASHINGTON—Expect to see more targeted kidnappings of Iraqis in the future, US defense executives said Tuesday, warning that the kidnappings could be a sign of a new phase in the conflict.

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REMARKS
Top. Christopher Steele and Michael Brown of the National Endowment for Democracy are seen in a photo taken during a press conference in Baghdad during the handover of power in Iraq. Steele is on the left, and Brown is on the right.

Sudan threatens to retaliate if foreign troops intervene

Khartoum—The Sudanese government threatened retaliation against any foreign troops sent to disarm rebels in the Darfur region, the ruling Sudanese government warned Tuesday.

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Altas sustain torrid streak; Cards prevail

By Jonathan W. Papp

THE UNIVERSITY of Oregon and Holy Aids continued their remarkable run, sweeping, sweeping, sweeping to their eighth straight win by defeating the Philippines at Channing T. Delphino, 64-71, to keep sole leadership at the end of the first round of the 2004 NCAA men's basketball tournament at the Rialto Coliseum.

Assistant Coach David Brown observed a "solid performance" with 20 points for the Altas, who take the spotlight from the Tigers. Cards, who were the 20-point leader in the first round, were defeated by the Altas, 64-71.

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Ride and joy

BREAKTIME



Contrado E. Sural III

SCIENCE? when/where/ how/ from/ when, asked me this morning.

"Thank, if you are good enough to turn up in a few million words when you like to the capital, straightforward, and liquidary administration of the new Regent, good-better, and, pre-post President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, who will be?"

Aside from that supposedly "accepted" but still "stranger" response, how? Well, let me see.

When I like about this rare administration, it, like, is, also, is, an incredible line of the UNPOPLAR.

"However, you are, 'popular' and 'un-popular' are still the critical points in the multi-observable words flowing out of the mouth of Malacañan Palace, when they talk about any government measure.

To think that Gloria Macapagal is the only President of the Republic who is during enough in chains... in a continuously infinite loop, at that—that she gathered the most measures.

And that again to be the pride and joy of a new administration.

Gloria Macapagal is a popular, that she got the most votes among all the Presidents.

The is to with, think, that the anti-Cabinet issue will have divisions on what is popular and what is not.

Perhaps they have some thing about the line election that we don't?

EVERYBODY in the Cabinet, in business, in banking—not to mention our foreign leaders and donors—knows that the 5.5 percent of the rate administration will be a loss.

And so, it waited and waited for a message on the multi-billion government "subsidy" transfer to come soon.

When some came, I knew that Gloria Macapagal was still campaigning, even after allegedly giving the most votes among all the Presidents.

You will find the biggest government subsidy in the power sector.

Thanks to the subsidy, the state-owned power will pay a loss of about P140 billion this year.

Another huge subsidy goes to the ride and joy of the commuting public, known as the MRT 3.

That's the mass transit system in Manila, which is still not completed, thanks to state intervention in Manila's growth.

Anyway, the government spends more than P700 million each year in subsidy for

the riders of the Edsa MRT, and the railway has been in place for the past two years now.

The money, of course, could have been used to put up another transit system, such as the much-delayed Edsa MRT extension to Marikina City.

Now the general manager of the Edsa MRT, former police chief Roberto Lantiao, is finally taking the bold step to get rid of the subsidy.

In fact, he already wrote to the Cabinet about his plan, asking for a minimum fare of P11 and a maximum of P22.

Even at the maximum fare for the entire stretch of the Edsa MRT, the fare will still be lower than the buses, which charge P22 for the same distance.

Say why you will about Lantiao, but I think he has a valid point here.

It is about time that the government make the Edsa MRT pay for its upkeep and such.

Of course, Lantiao is asking for a P6.50 increase to the maximum fare, and an additional P10 for every exceeding third train run.

That should be enough, he says, to reduce the government subsidy by 40 percent, which will eventually mean an increase in the Edsa MRT fare of only 1.3 percent.

But why not remove the entire subsidy loss? Am you crazy? It is not going to be—well, "popular."

At the House of Representatives, Speaker Batawara is also trying to rally the government to help end a 14-year state in the government business.

Indeed, as explained the board, at least where it comes to rate measures, will be the choice of the ways and means committee.

New York is trying to apply the "arm-chairing" formula in that same committee, between Reps. Jose Lujan and Hermenegildo.

Now, when he is not sleeping, Whiting Brown is suggested by many in the House as

like a father.

To some congressmen, he is also more like a grandfather. He is a couple of his young colleagues, but is like a great grandfather.

EDSA Lujan is known in the business circle.

He had a solid track record as a business executive, when he was the financial officer of Telecom and the managing director of the Philippine International.

As just 21, Lujan was called by the Hong Kong-based publisher Asia Finance as a "management white hot."

I suppose the accolade showed during his stint as president and CEO of Land Bank.

During this time, the bank moved from the 14th place, in terms of size, to the 10th.

The economic manager of this rare administration is also working for Lujan.

At least business groups endorsed him, for it is impossible to win lives in the House.

In fact, the ways and means committee is going to level some part of Lujan's deal with PDI, which is Lujan's party.

At this time, you are, the thinking is, the chairman of the ways and means committee in Congress should be good enough to become Finance Secretary.

SINOF appointed Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap little else that, when he was still the big boss in the 1970s, he also removed the rice subsidy.

Frankly, the USA, marked with "Gloria" all over the place, used to go around delivering subsidized rice to rural areas, which is much cheaper than rice in the market.

Of course, people were still rice that surrounding the subsidy would be... how we go again—in "unpopular" decision.

But Yap found out that, actually, the subsidized rice did not go to the poor. Some elite cadres buy the rice in bulk of the subsidized rice from the government.

They then make a killing by selling the same rice at market prices. So much for actually benefiting the poor!

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But what is that these elite cadres do, involving a pay-off of hundreds of millions of pesos to "modernize"?

It was supposed to be a three-cornered pay-off, involving a congressman, similar to the landbanking and a selling agent from abroad.

BCDA agrees to rebid major road project

By Russell W. Domingo

THE ROAD Conversion Development Authority has agreed to a rebidding of the multi-billion peso bid for the 44-kilometer Clark-Tarlac expressway project.

BCDA decision followed the recommendation of the National Economic and Development Agency, which said the previous project bid was too high.

BCDA president and chief executive Roldo C. Calayag said in a press briefing yesterday that the agency would seek the approval of the Japan Bank for International Cooperation to rebid the civil works estimate for the SCTEP.

The move stemmed from the fact that the original bidding was void due to a problem in the process, according to Calayag.

Calayag said the lesson had been learned in the bidding, conducted in 2000, was substantially higher than the budget approved by the Senate Investment Coordinating Committee in 2000.

The project originally cost P15.7 billion when the board originally gave the go-ahead in 1999.

It calls for the construction of a 44-kilometer expressway from Clark to Tarlac.

In April, Calayag said the BCDA was negotiating with a Japanese consortium of Itochu Corp., Teikoku Corp. and Nippon Steel Corp. to build the road.

The project is part of the Clark-Tarlac Expressway Project (CTEP) and is one of the 100 projects for the 2001-2002.

Calayag said the move would strengthen relations between the Philippines and Japan.

The BCDA is building the project while Japanese contractor Itochu Corp. will be the main contractor for the CTEP.

The contract, however, was never awarded.

Calayag said the BCDA would conduct the project proposal in the third quarter of 2001.

"We expect to have another bidding in three months," he said.

Clark highway, which would link Manila's airport to Clark's airport.

The new road is expected to cut travel time between the two points from 1.5 hours to 30 minutes.

The BCDA said it had approved the cost adjustment to P15.7 billion in 2001, or a total cost of P27.4 billion, including other expenses such as land and right of way.

Calayag said some target because of the construction of the project, there is pressure in the price of land and other raw materials, as well as design changes in areas affected by urbanization in Manila.

The BCDA said it would be looking to build a 100,000 reconstruction.

"We will follow whatever the Senate says, but we want to show that there is unity among government agencies," Calayag said.

As for the fact that Calayag said that the project is to be bid, the SCTEP would mean a delay in the project of up to two years.

He added the move would strengthen relations between the Philippines and Japan.

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THURSDAY, JULY 26, 2001

BUSINESS

Farm output seen to fuel GDP growth this year

MOBIST has come to dominate the Philippine economy this year, but a strong growth in the agricultural sector is expected to help the country's growth in 2001. The country's 11 provinces produced a median forecast of 4.5 percent gross domestic product growth for 2001. It is expected to be a decline from the 4.8 percent growth in 2000.

The government is projecting the economy to expand by 4.5 to 5.5 percent this year after a 4.5 percent growth in 2000. Growth rate will be more than 4.5 percent, in higher than the 4.5 percent growth in 2000. Growth rate will be more than 4.5 percent, in higher than the 4.5 percent growth in 2000.

Wily President Macapagal Arroyo, a career politician, is expected to be a career politician, in higher than the 4.5 percent growth in 2000. Growth rate will be more than 4.5 percent, in higher than the 4.5 percent growth in 2000.

public policy, and stable growth, and long-term growth, in the agricultural sector. The country's 11 provinces produced a median forecast of 4.5 percent gross domestic product growth for 2001.

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2.2 percent from the previous quarter—the lowest point in the series.

The government said it was expecting the rate to rise to 4.5 percent this year to 4.5 percent.

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majority of the country's population, and the country's 11 provinces produced a median forecast of 4.5 percent gross domestic product growth for 2001.

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low-income and high-income households, and the country's 11 provinces produced a median forecast of 4.5 percent gross domestic product growth for 2001.

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However, high oil prices and higher interest rates are expected to slow growth, and the country's 11 provinces produced a median forecast of 4.5 percent gross domestic product growth for 2001.

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A SUMMARY OF THE TOP 10 JOINT VENTURES FOR REAL ESTATE PROJECTS
The 10 top joint ventures for real estate projects in the Philippines are: 1. The 10th largest joint venture for real estate projects in the Philippines is the 10th largest joint venture for real estate projects in the Philippines.

WAREHOUSE AUCTION
HMR AUCTION SERVICES, INC.
MAJOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION
INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT
MISCELLANEOUS
MORE THAN 800 LOTS TO BID

Business Solutions
for Small-to-Medium Enterprises
PASTEL ACCOUNTING
P3,600 only
P33,600 only
P18,200

Gov't ...

Foreign funding is expected to be a major source of funds for the government, and the country's 11 provinces produced a median forecast of 4.5 percent gross domestic product growth for 2001.

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FARINA COTTE

I AM a sworn Kitchen Rescue fan and an aspiring wine connoisseur. What is the proper way to taste and enjoy wine? What do I look for? How do I order from a wine list? How do you read wine labels? What's the difference between a chardonnay and a chianti, etc.? Can you recommend a wine for me to try?

ROSALYN CORROS
Aloray

Wow, that was a powerful! Let's do one question at a time. Like a wine connoisseur, we'll have to wait for the next episode of *It*.

To know your wine is to experience it. Wine drinking should be pleasant like to all your senses. Wine should not be gulped down as you would a bottle of Red Bull. The experience is about evaluating the look, aroma, taste and feel of the drink. Each wine has a role to tell, so to speak, an interesting, a playful and a relaxing finale.

Next time you have a glass in hand, drink slowly and enjoy the experience. In no time you'll understand your wine deeply, getting the best value out of it. Remember, do this with your palate up. And, with your mouth down tell yourself, "I know my wine. I know, I know."

A chemistry of wine from reading school, David Hwangpin, who was then an apprentice sommelier, gave his wine partner's on wine-tasting.

1. **Hydrate.** Pour wine into a glass and study it visually. Often, it is possible to judge its age, flavor, concentration, alcohol levels and even the grape variety.

• White wines range from pale green to yellow to deep golden brown.

• Young whites are usually lighter and darker with age, young reds turn dark and lighter up.

• Young reds begin in hues of bluish purple becoming to shades of red, then turning brown.

• Light-bodied wine and thin-bodied reds cluster around lower lightness values.

• Vintage/darker wines are darker and tend to drop like rain down the sides of the glass.

LIFE STYLE

DAY FITNESS • WEDNESDAY JIB • THURSDAY FOOD • FRIDAY HOME & FASHION • SATURDAY

Experience for all senses

KITCHEN RESCUE

Rogelio Aguirre



2. **Swirl.** Vigorous swirling before sniffing is done for good reason. It aerates and potentially oxidizes, developing and amplifying the wine bouquet (aroma). In a few seconds, at the de-aerating process done is achieved by doing so.

3. **Sniff.** Sniff. Some 80 percent of our sense of taste is influenced by our sense of smell. Sweet, tart, bitter, etc., all these terms begin in the nose. What we smell isn't the first clue indication of the tasting experience to follow. The nose is almost always accurate and can tell good

from bad wine.

4. **Taste.** Sip. This is the affirmation of all the previous assumptions drawn from looking, swirling and sniffing. It is now time to taste or savor the wine.

5. **Keep.** Keep this to wine-tasting sessions. Do not do this at a social function or on a date. Mind your moment. Tasting is essential in developing and capturing the bouquet of wine. It aerates, aerates, aerates and aerates the wine to further develop its bouquet.

6. **Spitting.** Again, do this only at wine-tasting sessions. Why spit? By now, we know, do not lose your objectivity. Spitting keeps the senses keen and the palate clean. It gives notice that the identity and integrity of the wine that went before and the one that follows remain intact.

By correct breathing are both easy to drink (even for non-wine drinkers), reminding to allow my food partner, wonderful!

REFERENCE: 10

LIFESTYLE



OUR J-pop girls: the makings of a geisha, and being transformed



Geisha? Tempura with sauce, served in a dish

So pop, so Japanese



POOD square: Tokyo Tokyo's Shingo Tempura adorns a fan

TOKYO (**TOKYO**) has reinvented its 19-year-old icon of a geisha, and it has done so in true cutting-edge style. Following the company credo of making its own rules, the So Japanese! campaign went for the J-Pop concept: young, vibrant and about as non-traditional as can possibly be.

Tokyo Tokyo understood that it would take a special kind of visionary team to flesh out the concept and transform it into a television ad. So, cutting no corners and pulling no punches, it tapped the talents of the best in the field. Forty-five-year-old woman who plays the role of the geisha and Rina Iwano for the theme music, under the guidance of Shingo Gokudo and Masayuki Simons with their team from the Ganso

advertising agency.

The launch of Tokyo Tokyo TV goes against all the micro-trends of how Japanese food was supposed to be served. In target was the hip, apparently mobile set who were clearly in tune with the trends of the time. Being true to this market requires her maintain the theme to expand as far north as Tokyo and as far south as London. With close to 15 stores by year's end, there's no question the brand represents a new Japanese dining.

With this as Tokyo Tokyo's first major launch, the task of realigning its image was not easy. The second objective, however, was to stay true to the image that brought the brand to where it is now. Thus, the So Japanese! campaign was born. Taking inspiration from the J-Pop culture that has taken a following locally to it through music, fashion and more food.



BRUNCH *La del Acero*—temp country bread slices topped with bacon, mushrooms, black olives and chopped tomatoes, and served with Café Latte

Sidewalk café treats

PIZZA *Bruschetta del Acero*—Café has three delicious meat varieties of the European sidewalk café menu.

Its *Bruschetta* is half-sautéed grilled chicken in pesto dressing topped with slices of red bell peppers, and served with a side order of salad and *Amoroso* roll. *Calabrese* is *Pizza* is an oval-shaped bread filled with pepperoni and *Amoroso*, grilled and served with side salad and *Capriccio*. *Bruschetta del Acero* is temp country bread slices topped with bacon, mushrooms, black olives and chopped tomatoes and served with *Capriccio*.

The three items are available in Tokyo's centers until Dec. 31.



BRUSH *de la Piazza*—oval-shaped bread filled with pepperoni and cheese and grilled in a pan, and served with side salad and *Capriccio*